

5 We claim:

1. A consumable pet chew comprising

a formed, three-dimensional body of chewable material,

said body having an outer surface and at least one recess extending generally perpendicularly from said outer surface,

10 said recess having walls and a machined edge at said outer surface,

said recess defining a receptacle within said body,

a filling comprising an edible substance fixedly positioned in said receptacle.

2. The pet chew of claim 1 wherein said machined edge at said outer surface is formed by

machining operations selected from the group consisting of drilling, punching, cutting and

15 stamping.

3. The pet chew of claim 1 wherein the walls of said recess are scored during machining operations.

4. The pet chew of claim 1 wherein said receptacle is a cylindrical bore.

5. The pet chew of claim 1 wherein said receptacle is a three dimensional cavity of a 20 desired size and configuration.

6. The pet chew of claim 1 wherein said receptacle extends only partially through said body.

7. The pet chew of claim 1 wherein said chewable material is selected from the group consisting of natural rawhide, ground and recombined rawhide, starch, casein, denatured and 25 partially hydrolyzed collagen, thermoplastic material, non-toxic plastic, and mixtures thereof.

8. The pet chew of claim 1 wherein said filling is selected from the group consisting of rawhide, poultry, meat, pork, jerky, a meat by-product mixture, cereal, rice, vegetable, fruit, cheese, pet food, peanut butter, and mixtures thereof and binders therefor.

9. The pet chew of claim 1 wherein said filling is formed from whole pieces of an edible 30 substance.

5 10. The pet chew of claim 1 wherein said filling is formed from discrete particles of an
edible substance.

11. The pet chew of claim 1 wherein said filling comprises a processed mass.

12. The pet chew of claim 1 wherein said filling is substantially level with the outer
surface of said body.

10 13. The pet chew of claim 1 wherein said filling extends outwardly from said receptacle.

14. The pet chew of claim 1 wherein at least one of said chewable material and said filling
is flavored with a flavoring agent.

15. The pet chew of claim 1 wherein at least one of said chewable material and said filling
is colored with a colorant.

15 16. The pet chew of claim 1 wherein at least one of said chewable material and said filling
is scented.

17. The pet chew of claim 1 wherein at least one of said chewable material and said filling
further contains at least one additional ingredient selected from the group comprising nutrients,
dental additives, pharmaceutical compounds and mixtures thereof.

20 18. The pet chew of claim 17 wherein said nutrients are selected from the group consisting
of vitamins, minerals, herbs, anti-oxidants, and nutritional supplements.

19. The pet chew of claim 17 wherein said pharmaceutical compounds are selected from
the group consisting of anti-inflammatory agents, antibiotics, anti-parasitic agents, and animal-coat
enhancing compounds.

25 20. The pet chew of claim 1 wherein said receptacle and said filling are sized and
configured so that said filling is retained in said receptacle by friction fit.

21. The pet chew of claim 1 wherein said filling is pre-formed and pressed into said
receptacle.

5 22. A method of making a consumable pet chew, comprising the steps of:

10 a. forming an edible, chewable material into a three dimensional body;

 b. removing a portion of said body to form at least one recess having walls and defining a
receptacle in said body;

 c. forming an edible filling; and

15 d. fixedly positioning said filling in said receptacle.

20 23. The method of claim 22 wherein step b. includes the step of scoring the walls of said
recess during machining operations.

25 24. The method of claim 22 wherein said receptacle is a cylindrical bore.

 25. The method of claim 22 wherein said receptacle is a three dimensional cavity of a
15 desired size and configuration.

 26. The method of claim 22 wherein said receptacle extends only partially through said
body.

20 27. The method of claim 22 wherein said chewable material is selected from the group
consisting of natural rawhide, ground and recombined rawhide, starch, casein, denatured and
25 partially hydrolyzed collagen, thermoplastic material, non-toxic plastic, and mixtures thereof.

 28. The method of claim 22 wherein said filling is selected from the group consisting of
rawhide, poultry, meat, pork, jerky, a meat by-product mixture, cereal, rice, vegetable, fruit,
cheese, pet food, peanut butter, and mixtures thereof and binders therefor.

25 29. The method of claim 22 wherein said filling is formed from whole pieces of an edible
substance.

 30. The method of claim 22 wherein said filling is formed from discrete particles of an
edible substance.

 31. The method of claim 22 wherein said filling comprises a processed mass.

 32. The method of claim 22 wherein at least one of said chewable material and said filling
30 is flavored with a flavoring agent.

5 33. The method of claim 22 wherein at least one of said chewable material and said filling
is colored with a colorant.

34. The method of claim 22 wherein at least one of said chewable material and said filling
is scented.

10 35. The method of claim 22 wherein at least one of said chewable material and said filling
further contains at least one additional ingredient selected from the group comprising nutrients,
dental additives, pharmaceutical compounds and mixtures thereof.

36. The method of claim 35 wherein said nutrients are selected from the group consisting
of vitamins, minerals, herbs, anti-oxidants, and nutritional supplements.

15 37. The method of claim 35 wherein said pharmaceutical compounds are selected from the
group consisting of anti-inflammatory agents, antibiotics, anti-parasitic agents, and animal-coat
enhancing compounds.

38. The method of claim 22 wherein said filling is pre-formed and pressed into said
receptacle.

20 39. The method of claim 22 wherein said filling is fixedly positioned in said receptacle by
means of friction fit.

40. The method of claim 22 wherein said filling is fixedly positioned in said receptacle by
means of edible glue.

41. The method of claim 22 wherein said filling is fixedly positioned in said receptacle by
means of a removable covering.

25 42. The method of claim 22 wherein said filling is fixedly positioned in said receptacle by
sealing said filling in said receptacle by means of a thermosetting edible compound.

30 43. The method of claim 22 wherein said filling comprises slices of meat and steps c. and
d. comprise twisting said slices of meat and forcing said twisted slices into said receptacle so that
said twisted slices conform to the size and configuration of said receptacle and are retained in
position therein.

5 44. The method of claim 22 including, after step d., an additional step of shaping the top surface of the filling to the desired configuration.

45. The method of claim 22 including, after step d., an additional step of drying and sterilizing said pet chew by exposing said filled pet chew to a suitable temperature for a sufficient time to effect drying and sterilizing.

10 46. The method of claim 45 including, after said drying and sterilizing step, the step of wrapping said filled pet chew to prevent oxidation.